

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming method comprising the steps of:
~~reading an image to obtain~~ obtaining image data [[,]] and producing a password;

receiving designation of a destination printer [[,]] and designation of an addressee;

transmitting the image data and the password to the designated printer, and separately transmitting the password without the image data to the designated addressee by an E-mail; and

if the password transmitted by E-mail is entered into the printer and the password entered into the printer matches the password transmitted together with the image data, performing printing on the basis of the image data.

2. (Currently Amended) An image forming system comprising:

a scanner that reads an image and generates image data, said scanner adapted to receive ~~receiving~~ designation of a destination printer and designation of an addressee, and said scanner adapted to transmit ~~transmitting~~ the read image data and the password to the designated printer and said scanner adapted to transmit ~~transmitting~~ the password without the image data to the designated addressee by an electronic mail separately from the transmission of the read image

data and the password to the designated printer; and

a printer that prints on the basis of the image data in case that a password which is entered into the printer by a user matches with the password transmitted together with the image data.

3. (Currently Amended) An image communicating apparatus which is adapted to be connected to an image data receiving device via a network, wherein said image communicating device comprises:

a setting unit which is adapted to set a password specifying image data to be transmitted;

an image data transmitter which is adapted to transmit the specified ~~transmits~~ image data and the set password to said image data receiving device; and

~~a setting unit which sets a password specifying the image data to be transmitted; and~~

a mail transmitter which is adapted to transmit ~~transmits~~ the set password without the image data by an E-mail to an address corresponding to a device other than the image data receiving device, wherein the mail transmitter is adapted to transmit the set password separately from the transmission of the set password and the image data by the image data transmitter.

4. (Previously Presented) The image communicating apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the password is a password which is requested to be entered as a condition for starting image formation based on the image data received by the image data receiving device.

5. (Currently Amended) The image communicating apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

a receiving unit which receives a completion notification which is transmitted in reply to entering of the password and image formation.

6. (Previously Presented) The image communicating device according to claim 3, wherein the password is a password which is requested to be entered as a condition for starting image data transmission by said image data transmitter.

7. (Previously Presented) The image communicating apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising an address entering unit which enters a destination address of the E-mail.

8. (Previously Presented) The image communicating apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising:

a selector which selects an image data receiving device to which the image data are to be transmitted, from plural image data receiving devices which are connected to one another via the network; and

a determining member which determines a destination of the E-mail by the mail transmitter, in accordance with a result of the selection by the selector.

9. (Currently Amended) An image reading apparatus which is to be connected to an image data receiving device via a network, wherein said image

reading device comprises:

a reading unit which is adapted to read reads an original;

a setting unit which sets a password specifying the image data to be transmitted;

an image data transmitter which is adapted to transmit transmits image data, which are obtained by reading the original, and the set password to the image data receiving device; and

~~a setting unit which sets a password specifying the image data to be transmitted; and~~

a mail transmitter which transmits the set password without the image data by an E-mail to a device other than the image data receiving device, wherein the mail transmitter is adapted to transmit the set password separately from the transmission of the set password and the image data by the image data transmitter.

10. (Currently Amended) An image forming system having an image communicating device which performs communication of image data, an image forming device which forms an image on a printing sheet based on the received image data, and an E-mail receiving device,

wherein said image communicating device comprises:

a setting unit which sets a password specifying the image data to be transmitted;

an image data transmitter which is adapted to transmit the transmits image data and the set password to said image forming device via a network; and

~~a setting unit which sets a password specifying the image data to be~~

transmitted; and

a mail transmitter which transmits the set password without the image data to an address of said E-mail receiving device by an E-mail, wherein the mail transmitter is adapted to transmit the set password separately from the transmission of the set password and the image data by the image data transmitter; and

wherein said image forming device comprises:

a receiver which is adapted to receive ~~receives~~ the image data and the set password transmitted by said image communicating device;

a storage which is adapted to store stores the received image data;

an image forming unit which is adapted to form ~~forms~~ an image on a printing sheet based on the image data stored in said storage;

a receiving unit which is adapted to receive the set ~~receives a~~ password; and

a controller which controls said image forming unit based on whether the set password is received or not.

11. (Currently Amended) An image communication method of communicating image data via a network, comprising the steps of:

transmitting image data to a first device;

setting a password specifying the image data to be transmitted; and

transmitting the set password without the image data by an E-mail to a second device.

12. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium on which procedures of communicating image data via a network are recorded, wherein a

program is recorded on the recording medium, the program causing the computer to implement the steps of:

- transmitting image data to a first device;
- setting a password specifying the image data to be transmitted; and
- transmitting the set password without the image data by an E-mail to a second device.

13. (Currently Amended) An image forming method comprising the steps of:
obtaining image data[[,]] and producing a password;
transmitting the image data and the password to a designated printer;
transmitting the password without the image data to a designated addressee by an E-mail; and

if the password transmitted by E-mail is entered into the designated printer and the password matches the password transmitted together with the image data, performing printing on the basis of the image data.

14. (Currently Amended) An image forming method, comprising:
identifying a printer as a designated printer;
transmitting image data to the designated printer;
transmitting certification information without the image data to a designated addressee via an e-mail; and
printing the image data on the designated printer if the certification information is approved.

15. (Currently Amended) An image forming method, comprising:

transmitting certification information without image data to an addressee at a first computer via e-mail;

inputting the certification information to a designated printer;

confirming the certification information; and

printing image data by the designated printer that the designated printer received from a second computer if the certification information is approved.